



STATE OF MICHIGAN
BUREAU OF ELECTIONS
LANSING

May 23, 2022

REVIEW OF NOMINATING PETITION

REGINA TRIPLETT
Nonpartisan Candidate for 3rd Circuit Judge, Non-Incumbent Position

NUMBER OF VALID SIGNATURES REQUIRED: 4,000 signatures.

TOTAL FILING: 5,698 signatures.

RESULT OF FACE REVIEW: 5,237 facially valid signatures, 461 invalid signatures.

Total number of signatures filed		5,698
Not registered	<i>Less:</i>	14
Jurisdiction errors (no city in county known by name given by signer, dual jurisdiction entry, jurisdiction name given by signer does not align with address)	<i>Less:</i>	291
Date errors (no date given by signer, date of birth entered, or date given by signer is later than circulator's date of signing)	<i>Less:</i>	29
Address errors (no street address or rural route given)	<i>Less:</i>	6
Circulator errors (circulator did not sign or date petition, etc.)	<i>Less:</i>	47
Signature errors (no signature or incomplete signature)	<i>Less:</i>	5
Miscellaneous errors (signatures of dubious authenticity where the petition signature does not match the signature on file or multiple signatures appear to have been written by the same individual, etc.)	<i>Less:</i>	69
TOTAL		5,237

In total, staff's review of Ms. Triplett's petition sheets identified 461 invalid signatures and 5,237 facially valid signatures.

CHALLENGE: Jeffrey David Hillman filed a challenge against a number of signatures submitted by Regina Triplett. Specifically, Mr. Hillman challenged 2,177 signatures claiming defects including: (1) signatures from individuals not registered to vote in Michigan; (2) signatures duplicated in the petitions; (3) signatures with invalid dates on the signature line; (4) petition sheets where the circulator's certificate omitted the date; (5) signatures omitted required elements of the signatory's address, such as the signer's city or township or street address; (6) petition headers contained an incorrect office; (7) signatures dated after the date of the circulator's signature on the circulator certificate; (8) signatory addresses outside of the

jurisdiction listed; and (9) signatures dated more than 180 days prior to Triplett's filing for office.¹

Included in Mr. Hillman's challenge were 777 signatures challenged on the basis that the signatures were collected more than 180 days prior to Triplett's filing for office. No such cutoff exists for signatures on nominating petitions. After removing those 777 signatures from the 2,177 signatures challenged, Mr. Hillman's challenge includes 1,400 signatures.² Because Ms. Triplett has a 1,698 "cushion" of excess signatures after face review, and Mr. Hillman did not call more than 1,698 signatures into question, staff did not process Mr. Hillman's remaining challenge.

Ms. Triplett responded to the challenge, asserting that there is no 180-day cutoff for signatures for nominating petitions and attempting to rehabilitate enough of the challenged signatures to bring Ms. Triplett above the signature threshold.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Determine petition sufficient.

¹ Mr. Hillman also challenged Ms. Triplett's *Affidavit of Identity*. Affidavit of Identity validity determinations are made by the Michigan Department of State, not the Board of State Canvassers.

² While Mr. Hillman's challenge was not submitted in a format conducive to review, staff believes that Mr. Hillman may also have challenged approximately 132 of the 777 "more than 180 days prior to filing" signatures on grounds independent of the date of signing. Because, even when those 132 signatures are added to the remaining 1,400 outstanding signature challenges, the 1,532 signatures Mr. Hillman challenges is still below Ms. Triplett's 1,698 signature cushion, the challenge is still insufficient to prevent Ms. Triplett from having enough signatures for access to the ballot.